



McGregor W. Scott

United States Attorney
Eastern District of California

Sacramento
501 I. Street, Ste 10-100
Sacramento CA 95814
(916) 554-2700

NEWS RELEASE

Fresno
1130 O. Street, Rm 3654
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 498-7272

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2005

Contact: Laura L. Ferris

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home/>

FORMER U.C. DAVIS STUDENT SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS INCARCERATION FOR POSSESSING AND TRANSFERRING IMPLEMENTS TO COUNTERFEIT CALIFORNIA DRIVER'S LICENSES AND POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that NICHOLAS WILLIAM BLASGEN, 24, of Los Gatos, California, formerly of Davis, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Morrison C. England, Jr. to 30 months incarceration, a three year period of supervised release, and a \$30,000 fine. The defendant pleaded guilty to two counts of production and transfer of document making implements and one count of possession of child pornography on June 21, 2005.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the United States Secret Service. The case was prosecuted with the additional assistance of the Sacramento High Tech Crimes Task Force.

"In the post-9/11 era, the integrity of identification documents such as driver's licenses is more important than ever. Consequently federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies have redoubled their efforts to vigorously combat document fraud," said United States Attorney Scott.

"Today's sentencing confirms that producers of counterfeit driver licenses will be caught and punished," said DMV Director Joan Borucki. "This case illustrates once again how DMV works with the federal government on tough, new security measures that DMV has instituted to prevent law breakers from fraudulently obtaining a counterfeit California driver license."

According to Assistant United States Attorney Laura L. Ferris, who prosecuted the case, and court documents filed in the case, DMV began the investigation in 2002 as part of a larger operation to address the illegal transporting of laminates with State of California and California Department of Motor Vehicles seals that are used in the production of false California Driver's Licenses. At his change of plea hearing, BLASGEN admitted that on or about January 15, 2003 he used the internet to communicate with someone outside the State of California and explained to him how to manufacture false identification documents. BLASGEN proceeded to sell this person, over the internet, a template for \$80. The template contained the software necessary to create a false California Driver's license. BLASGEN later sent this person, via Federal Express, laminates with the California State seal and the California Department of Motor Vehicles seal to be used in the production of false California Driver's Licenses. In furtherance of his business to

produce these laminates, BLASGEN supervised his two co-defendants DANIEL ALEKSANDER and JOSEPH STEWART. Both ALEKSANDER and STEWART have pleaded guilty to related state misdemeanor charges.

A search of BLASGEN's residence in Davis in April 2003 revealed he was in possession of document-making implements, computers, laminates, and other pieces of related equipment. In addition, California false identification documents in various states of manufacture were found. BLASGEN has agreed to forfeit all of these items.

While officers were searching BLASGEN's computers for evidence relating to the possession and transfer of document making implements, they found images of child pornography, sought a second warrant, and ultimately found that two of BLASGEN's computers contained evidence of his possessing child pornography. Among the images were pictures of children under the age of 18 and some under the age of 12, engaged in sexually explicit conduct. At least twenty of the pictures have been matched to images of known victims. BLASGEN has agreed to forfeit both of the computers containing these images.

BLASGEN was already in custody at the time of sentencing, having been remanded into custody following his guilty plea.

For further information, please contact Bill Branch, DMV Media Relations, 916-657-6437.

###